

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING ARTICLES

ABSTRACT

Apparatus is described for processing articles. It has a hollow drum having permeable walls. At one end there is an inlet for receiving articles onto an inside surface of the permeable walls. At the other end is an outlet for discharging articles from the drum. The drum is rotated about an axis having at least a horizontal component at such speed that centrifugal force acting on the articles is sufficient to overcome the gravity acting on the articles. A first jet of fluid is applied to the articles through the permeable wall, to displace the articles from the inside surface and in a direction away from the inlet, towards the outlet.

↪ In one application, the process is used to dry the articles. In another application the process is used to inspect the articles.